TARC NEWSLETTER

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

APRIL 1996

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-0779 SECRETARY: Marty Coin WD4JNM 264-9447
V.PRESIDENT: Pike Abell W4EPU 269-4208 TREASURER: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-9375

CLUB INFORMATION

TARC Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs at Jaycee Building
TARC Nets: VIP - Thursdays at 1000 hrs on 146.910
Friendship - Thursdays at 1830 hrs on 146.910
Mosquito - Wednesdays at 1900 hrs on 28.333
TARC Repeaters: VHF - 146.910 and 146.970. UHF - 444.150

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The March TARC club meeting was another good-un. We had Mr. Sean Jones of Bell South Mobility as our guest speaker. Sean talked about cellular phones. If the number of questions fielded by Sean was the gauge by which to grade the club's interest in his agenda, then he got a CAPITAL A+. Thanks, Sean, for a very good presentation.

I owe the new members an apology for omitting the presentation to the group of their names to be voted on for club membership. Guess who really bent my ear for that booboo...yep, it was an applicant for membership - namely KF4HTC. So to the new members - if you will overlook this one I'll make it up to you.

Our thanks to Patty (Butch KE4YQN's boss), Marie N2USO, Becky KF4HTB, and who else....Oh yes, the lady that reminded me of my forgetting to have the club vote in the new members - my Sherry KF4HTC, for the delicious refreshments.

TARC's 1996 No-Code class was a success. All 19 students graduated. Three of the students jumped ship and took the required exams and have their license. They are: Becky KF4HTB, Ron KF4HJQ and Sherry KF4HTC. Thanks to all who assisted Jose KC4VIO for your support and especially John K4JYX who was kind enough to drive down from Daytona through a rain storm. John, we are fortunate to have guys like you on our team.

Our thanks to Ralph AE4LE and those who supported the Valiant Air Command Show at TICO last week. Those who supported and represented TARC included Cliff KC4SYD, Jack KC4VFQ, Debbie KE4RFJ, Bubba KE4BBP, Mike KE4MWZ, Skid KD4DOJ, Sandy KE4TQZ, Dave AE4OJ and.....

Did you notice someone missing at our March meeting? If so, contact them and remind them of the next meeting. Let them know we missed them, as we did Les K4SJC.

Our sympathy goes out to the families of two more of our members who have joined the silent keys. They are Mert K4ZAL and Dan K3KS. Rest in peace dear friends.

Hey guys and gals - don't forget the bicycle ride Sunday morning out at the Black Point Wild Life Reserve. Bring the kids along and I just betcha we will have a good time!

Best to til next time. Bud K4CWG

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

APR. 2	KE4MFW	WALLY GENTRY
APR. 2	KB3GK	JOHN MUNSEY
APR. 3	AA4FY	NORM FOSTER
APR. 4	KC4VMP	JIM CLARK
APR. 6	KS4BD	DARWIN MCCOMBS
APR. 8	KF4FEY	PENNY COPELAND
APR. 8	KE4HDF	ANGIE DIMEO
APR. 10	KF4UN	DAVE POST
APR. 10	KC4VWA	ETHEL GRINER
APR. 13	KE4YQF	MARY LORENZI
APR. 15	KB4CAR	JEAN YOUNG
APR. 21	KD4UJH	GEO.CONSTANDAKIS
APR. 22	WB4RIS	JIM ROBINSON
APR. 23	KT4CO	WILLIAM SIMANO
APR. 23	W4BME	JOHN LINK
APR. 26	KE4ICN	ROSS QUARNOCCIO
APR. 30	KD4LGI	MIKE JACOBSON
APR. 30	KB4RBU	VERN BAUER

FM STATION RECALLS RADIO'S "GOLDEN AGE"

By Jeff Seager - Charleston Daily Mail
Submitted by Jim Meeks N4ZNQ

With a little help from his friends, Paul Casto broadcasts his favorite music for a very select Kanawha Valley (W.V.) audience.

>Powerful commercial radio stations these days aim for the nostalgia of the '60s and '70s. Casto digs deeper, though, into bins of 78 rpm records by Bing Crosby, the Glenn Miller Orchestra or the Andrews Sisters. The music he loves is rooted solidly in the Big Band era, the Golden Age of Radio.

>As :The Voice of Dunbar" since Feb. 1, his tiny 10-watt community radio station has beamed out that distinctive sound as far west as Nitro, as far east as the state Capitol dome.

>His commercial-free stereo broadcasts can be tuned in from 3 to 7 p.m. daily at 89.5 FM.

>"A lot of people like this old music, and there's none of it on now," said Casto, who at 57 years old, was a child in the heyday of big bands. "I just love it, myself, so we decided to do it."

>The Federal Communications Commission does not issue call letters for community radio stations, which must broadcast with less than 100 watts of power without interference to other local station.

>"It covers all of Dunbar, plus South Charleston and Spring Hill, very well - even up on the West Side, and North Charleston is covered well," said Bill Given, a fellow amateur radio operator and Dunbar resident who has assisted Casto in this and other radio projects.

>But it was another ham radio aficionado, Tom Holton of Tornado, who provided the final push to Casto's dream of a community radio station. He submitted the necessary paperwork to the FCC last year, and for Christmas, Holton presented Casto with a kit from which they built the station's transmitter.

>Ham radio has brought the world to Paul Casto, whose speech and mobility are hampered by cerebral palsy. By radio, he has conversed with people in more than 300 countries worldwide.

>Now he's aiming his signal much closer to home. "We've been working on this project for the last two years," Casto said. "Hopefully, the Dunbar community will use it for announcements of local interest."

>For now though, he's seeking some response from his neighbors. Casto hopes they'll listen and tell him what they think.

>The station's signal suffers some "dead spots" now, even within its target area, partly due to technical problems that the three friends feel confident they'll work out in the next few weeks. "I'm in the process of building a new antenna," Holton explained. "We're going to get it out of the way from the tower.

>Just how small is this outfit? Well, everything needed to transmit the signal to the antenna is spread across a shelf 5' long, 8" deep and 6" high. "It's all home-brewed, see? All this stuff, except for one amplifier, is all home-built." Holton said. "Tom and Paul built the station transmitter itself," added Given. "I built a little amplifier, and Tom built the antenna." Another amateur radio operator, Tommy Murdock, climbed the tower in Casto's back yard to erect the antenna. Yet another ham operator, Frank Pearson, chipped in the final stage amplifier that boosted the transmitted signal to 10 watts.

>Casto also hopes to rebroadcast some of the old radio comedy shows and dramas that created a theater of the imagination for radio listeners during those first few decades of broadcasting.

ELECTRON-HOLE THEORY EXPOSED AS FRAUD

From Ham Radio Magazine 4/85

Have you been bemused and confused by the electron-hole theory? Do charges, valence bonds, and the 3/2 power law make you nervous? A startling discovery by Mark Parsons invalidates all of this claptrap! In a recent issue of Radio World, Mark reveals how electronic equipment really works.

For many years young electronic technicians have been taught the 'hole' theory of electronics. This theory explains how electrons move along conductors and semiconductors. The explanation has been good enough to satisfy or keep at bay anyone who might otherwise question the theory.

However, after a number of years working in the broadcast industry, I have come to realize the 'hole' explanation may not be correct. My theory, which has been proven time and again by personal observation, is that electronics works on smoke. Yes, that's right. I recently learned that every manufacturer encapsulates a certain amount of smoke in every piece of electronic component he builds. The smoke is what does the work.

You have probably noticed that a component will quit working when the smoke leaks out. I've documented this many times and it conclusively proves my theory. My theory sure beats the 'hole' theory. I've never seen holes in a wire, and why don't electrons pour out of the end of the wire, if the wire is broken?

I say Mark Pearsons is Right. I've seen smoke many times, but I've never seen an electron. Hats off to this pioneer whose discovery will be celebrated each April in the years to come!

HEARD ON THE AIRWAYS

By Jo KE4AEB

Some discussion about the devil's tower between KS4YUI Steve and KR4YZ Charlie. Charlie is planning another great excursion round and about the country and Steve was pointing out places of interest. Wonder if you could put a beam up on that tower. Archie is recuperating from his surgery just fine. There was some discussion about whether his voice had changed. General agreement was that it had not.

If Noel KE4MYA sounds a lot happier on the airways it might be because she now has her own electric powered, top of the line wheel chair. No longer does she have to catch a ride on the back of KE4MWZ Mike's chair. I think there might be a little envy there. Mike says he can still out drive her because he is a more experienced driver (iron heart Mike). Might have some parking problems around the house, I hear.

KE4VIO Jose invited the Sunday morning net people to join him on a bike ride through Black Point Drive. You should have heard the excuses. "Gotta do something with the XYL," "can't get to my bike," "don't have a good ground on my bike," "bike is buried." Anyway, some of the guys gave it a try. K4CWG Bud had trouble finding the place, and he is suspected of connecting a long bungie cord between his bike and the one in front of him (next to the last one). They liked it so much that they did it again the next Sunday. A highlight on this trip was KD4HNW Ken being afraid he wouldn't make it back in time for church, pulled a Superman (Clark Kent) maneuver. He jumped into a phone booth to make his rapid change from bike rider to church goer.

Lots of wildlife reportedly seen on the trip: Snake, birds, alligators and a beaver. (I think not. Suspect subject beaver was probably an otter.) And a beautiful young woman working on her thesis paper? No Humming Birds? Well, its a known fact that they migrate between up here and Mexico. So, the question came up, do they chirp in Spanish or English, or are they bilingual like KC4VIO Jose? The final decision, I think, was that they chirp in Spanish and hum in English.

Its always interesting to listen to the airways. You hear a lot of interesting things. Some talk about some of the darndest things. You throw out a question and you are sure to get an answer - not necessarily correct, but an answer nonetheless. A lot of the time you will get answers even when you don't ask a question.

I'm still looking for information about the goat suckers that KC4VIN Carol and KC4VIO Jose reported about down in Puerto Rico.

HAM RADIO FOILS THEFT ATTEMPT

From Amateur Radio Newsline #967

Two Kansas hams are heroes after stopping a computer theft. Zachary Canright KB0GMC and Beryl Masters WB0EJJ recently helped police in Overland Park, Kansas, nab three teenagers trying to make a getaway with $7,500 worth of computers allegedly stolen from a local store.

Canright's attention was first drawn by the teens' peculiar behavior as they loaded the computer equipment onto a truck. He then noticed the vehicle had no plates and used his mobile radio and a local repeater to contact Masters.

Masters directed police to a shopping center lot where Canright had followed the youths and witnessed them attaching plates to the pickup. Police arrested the three teens and charged them with felony theft.

ATLANTA OLYMPICS: NO HAM RADIO

From Amateur Radio Newsline #968

If you're a ham and you plan on coming to Atlanta for the Olympic games, some friendly advice in advance. Leave your hand held radio at home. You won't be allowed inside if it's found on your person at the gate.

This warning comes from Andrew Funk KB7UV, a member of the Olympic Broadcast Frequency Coordination Committee. Andy tells Newsline he's very familiar with plans for RF management during the games. He says all RF radiating devices at any venue connected to the games will be tightly controlled. This even goes for all broadcast related RF gear. It will be required to pass a separate Olympic certification inspection, along with normal FCC certification.

Funk says, "All broadcast related RF gear will be required to pass an Olympic certification and inspection in addition to that normally required by the FCC. And as amateur handy talkies are will known to be easily modified for wide band operation, they are going to be looked out for and not permitted in the venues. Now this is specifically the venues which is where the games, events are taking place."

Andy says that this will unfortunately have an adverse impact on radio amateurs attending the games and who were hoping to operate from the events. Some may call this an unreasonable policy. It may or may not be, but Andy suggests you avoid the hassle by NOT bringing your HT to the Atlanta games.

VEC CHANGE

From Amateur Radio Newsline #969

Your favorite radio salesman may soon be giving ham radio exams. This is because the FCC has formally eliminated conflict-of-interest provisions that had kept those involved in the manufacture, distribution or sale of ham radio gear from taking part in the VEC testing system. The FCC action also conforms the ham radio rules to the new Communications Act of 1996, recently signed into law by President Clinton.

The former provisions essentially precluded equipment manufacturers and their employees and anyone who prepares or distributes ham radio license study materials from administering Amateur Radio license examinations. The purpose was to prevent an employee from favoring examinees who had purchased manuals or equipment produced or distributed by the VE or the VE's employer. The FCC has concluded that other rules provisions, combined with current Amateur Radio license examination procedures, will protect against potential abuses.

The Commission has also eliminated a requirement that volunteer examiners and volunteer examiner coordinators maintain records of out-of-pocket expenses and annually certify those expenses to the FCC.

The FCC says that VEs and VECs still may recover actual out-of-pocket costs from examinees. The maximum reimbursement fee is $6.07 for 1996.

The rules changes became effective February 28. The FCC says that because each exam is administered by three VEs and coordinated by a VEC it would be highly unlikely for any examinee to be favored by a VE or VEC.

The agency notes that 12 years of experience with the VEC system has shown that breaches of trust by VECs and VEs can be dealt with swiftly and immediately. This, by discrediting the offending VEs or rescinding the VEC agreement.

MORSE CODE IN MUSIC

By Brian Pasternak

While listening to your favorite music, don't be surprised if you hear those strange and annoying sounds of that terrible Morse code!

Case in point: On Joe Walsh's latest solo album *Songs For A Dying Planet"* is a song titled *Vote For Me.* The song is preceded with Morse code which pounds out "REGISTER AND VOTE FOR ME AR." Brian KF2HC states that the same message appears on Joe's first album, *Barnstorm,* in a song titled *Mother.* Joe holds an Advanced class Amateur license.

Another album worth noting is Roger Waters' album *Radio Kaos.* This album is filled with Morse messages. Most of the code is underlying the haunting music and very difficult to copy. The album's cover is also worth noting . . . it is littered with Morse code characters. The album's song titles are all spelled out in Morse Code!

The rock band RUSH has a song title *YYZ* on their album *Moving Pictures.* This song starts out with a heavy percussion belting out *YYZ* and then followed by bass and guitar blaring out the same. Well, the characters YYZ are the beacon identifier for the Toronto International Airport. The inspiration for the song came from Alex Lifeson, the guitarist for the band, who holds a private pilots license.

Carter Bennett KI5SR brings to my attention that there is badly formed Morse code on Kate Bush's album *Hounds of Love.* Carter informs me that the song *Watching You Without Me* contains the code SOS. It was also reported that this track has some RTTY going in and out of tune. KI5SR continues with information regarding the album *Saving the Wildlife* by Mannheim Steamroller. He states that there is a track on the album which sounds too much like CQ in Morse.

Wayne WA6MPG states that in 1967, the band PEARLS BEFORE SWINE recorded a song with an adult rated CW message on it. The song was titled *Miss Morse* and is said to have vulgarities in it spelled out with Morse code. The album was titled *One Nation Underground.*

Randall, KE0YG provided the following info about Morse code in the computer game called *Red Storm Rising* by Microprose. He says that in the opening credits there is music which contains Morse code which spells out "The Russians are Coming" at about 18 WPM Randall says that he can confirm this on the C-64 version and he believes that the IBM version plays the CW message in the theme song.

Well, that's about it for now. TNX to all who have provided me with information on this subject es TNX to all who have inquired about the subject. Until next time KEEP POUNDING BRASS!

FCC AFFIRMS 219 - 220 MHz

The FCC has affirmed the secondary allocation of 219-220 MHz for Amateur Radio. The action, for the most part, denies a Petition for Reconsideration filed by Orion Telecom, an Automated Maritime Telecommunications System licensee. Orion had argued to rescind the decision to allocate 219-220 MHz to ham radio saying the 50 mile exclusion distance between AMTS and amateur operators was insufficient to protect primary AMTS operations from harmful interference. Orion asserted that a 575 mile exclusion distance was necessary, which would have precluded Amateur Radio operation in many areas. AMTS coast stations use 219-220 MHz to receive, and 217-218 MHz to transmit.

The FCC did agree with Orion's concern that the amateur rules do not adequately specify the frequency range of AMTS operations. The FCC amended its rules to specifically call attention to the fact that one must look at 217-218 MHz assignments to know what AMTS coast stations are operating in a given area.

ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner K1ZZ says the League is pleased that the FCC reaffirmed its commitment to provide some relief to the Amateur Service at 219-220 MHz to offset the loss of access to 220-222 MHz. He says the ARRL has a procedure in place to ensure that amateurs planning to use 219-220 MHz are aware of their obligations to avoid harmful interference to other services.

TREASURERS REPORT

By K4EOS Clyde Lee

BALANCE FORWARD FROM 1995	2,780.03
DEPOSITS Year to date	4,732.92
TOTAL INCOME	$7,512.95
EXPENDITURES	1,771.70
BALANCE AS AT 03/26/96	$5,741.25

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS HAVE NOT PICKED UP THEIR I.D. CARDS FOR TARC OR ARES. BY SENDING A SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOP, THE CARDS WILL BE SENT TO YOU. MAIL TO: RALPH HALL, AE4LE, 27 FAIRGLEN DR., TITUSVILLE, FL 32796.

TARC I. D.	ARES I. D.
CHARLIE KE4BBJ	CLYDE KD4FAA
CLYDE KD4FFA	ROBERT KK4ON
KAREN N4YGP	GEORGE KR4HS
KARL KC4ZHW	ARTHUR WB4AXB
ORA KE4BBK	WILLIAM KA4VTH
	KARL KC4ZHW
	VINCIENT KK4SH

MARCH MEETING

By Marty WD4JNM

The meeting was called to order at 1900 hours by Bud K4CWG.

After the Pledge of Allegiance and introduction of members and guests, Pike K4EPU introduced guest speaker Mr. Sean Jones of Bell South Mobility who told the club about the advantages and disadvantages of the use of cellular phones and then opened the floor for questions from the audience. He also gave out information packets to anyone who was interested.

After the refreshment break Pike K4EPU reminded everyone to subscribe to and renew subscriptions to Florida Skip and QST through the club.

Ralph AE4LE thanked the members for their participation at the Valiant Air Command Show at TICO.

Warren KS4GP updated the club on preparations and activities being planned for field day.

Jose KC4VIO announced that all 19 students in the No-Code class passed their exams.

Bud K4CWG thanked Jose for again teaching the class, and said if there is enough interest, the CW glass will continue.

The meeting was adjourned at 2045 hours.

A JOKE

From KE4AEB Jo

Three guys talking: A Russian, an American and a man (mon) from the islands.

The Russian said "We are the greatest. We put the first creature in space, a dog on Sputnik."

The American says "That's nothing, we put the first man on the moon."

Island mon says, "That's nothing, we are going to be the first to put a mon on the sun."

American says, "Bull, mon, its so hot up there he would burn up!"
Islander says, "Mon, I know that. You think we be stupid? We gonna put him up there in night time."

FOR SALE

ADI 2 METER HT
RCVS 130-174-TX 142-149
5 W - 20 MEMORIES -CTSS TONES
ALL LATEST FEATURES INCL.
CAR CORD - CHARGER
LESS THAN 3 YEARS OLD
$150.00
CLYDE LEE K4EOS
267-9375

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike W4EPU

Clyde asked me - he says, "Pike, how come we have Leap Year?"

I explained to him - I said, "Well you see Clyde, a year is about 365-1/4 days, so every four years we have to add a day. That puts everything back on track. But actually, a year of 365-1/4 days is 11 minutes and 14 seconds too long. That amounts to three days every 400 years.

"So to bring things back into kilter, three out of every four years ending in 00 are arbitrarily determined as not leap year.... 1700, 1800 and 1900 were not. But the year 2000 will be.

"Therefore, leap years are those years devisible by four, except for centesimal years which are not divisible by 400. All of this is necessary to keep the years - particularly the seasons of the years - Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter in their proper places.

"Now Clyde, do you see why we have Leap Years?"

Clyde responded, "Yeah! We need the extra days just to figure all that out."

73s es 88s

PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

By Pike W4EPU

For five days in a row during the first week of March, the sunspot number (SSN) was zero (0). That is the first time I can ever remember it being that low. During the same period, solar flux, another indication of solar activity, was around 70. That is also low by normal standards.

Considering the predictions that the SSN will stay very low for another year or so, be prepared to do most of your DXing on the 80 and 160 meter bands for a good while yet.

In spite of the above, beginning with the equinox on Mach 20, propagation conditions will improve throughout the spring and summer, as compared to winter conditions.

FOR SALE

KENWOOD TS-830 S
HF-SSB TRANSCEIVER
10-160 METER BANDS
AND
MODEL DFC - 230 DIGITAL
FREQUENCY CONTROLLER
$450.00
DICK 'KA4NZM' RUFFE
267-2967

FOR SALE

YASAU 900 AT
HAND MIKE
MD-A DESK MIKE
SEPERATION KIT
ORIGINAL BOX
MANUAL
$1200.00
WD4JNM MARTY COIN
264-9447

FOR SALE

SILVER REED
ELECTRONIC TYPEWRITER EX-300
EXCELLENT CONDITION
8000 CHARACTER MEMORY
PRINT/EDIT FUNCTION
20 CHARACTER DISPLAY
LINE/PAGE FORMATTING
PRE PROGRAMED PROMPTS
CENTERING, DECIMAL TABULATION
INCLUDES
OPERATERS MANUAL
2 RIBBONS, 2 CORRECTION TAPES
$200.00
PIKE ABELL W4EPU
269-4208

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 274. (205 regular, 64 family, 5 honorary)

NEW MEMBERS: NOT YET DORIS GIONET
NOT YET JOEY SAMMONS
KF4CDT TERRY EAVES
KE4HJQ RON MORGAN
KF4HTB BECKY LEE
KF4HTC SHERRY HUGHES

RENEWALS:
KE4AEB JO JORDAN
KE4MXF KAY JORDON
KE4AEF HOWARD McNITT
N4AWX BRIAN VAN ALSTINE
KC4WZA JANET VAN ALSTINE
KB4WLT KEN WATSON
KD4VFQ KAY WATSON
KF4AZN KEN WATSON JR.
KB4BHS GLENN LEE
N2CTQ LOU GENCORELLI
N2USO MARIE GENCORELLI
KE4JI CARL CHRISTIAN
WD4JSX DON HATFIELD
KE4JBF JOAN HATFIELD
AF4N WES WHITLEY
KE4EJ SANDRA WHITLEY
KE4OWZ DAVID BURDICK
KE4OZD DANNY BURDICK
KE4TKC HARMONY BURDICK
KE4WJW LORNA BURDICK
KB4RBU VERN BAUER
K1SKQ FRANCIS MCDERMOTT
KC4TE EUGENE MANN
KE4UN DAVE POST
KD4VFS STEVE MORRIS
AD4VV DAN WOOD
AD4VU BOBBI SUE WOOD
KC4VVG WALT HART
N4WIN WALT FOSTER
KR4YZ CHARLES FAGEL

HAMFEST CALENDAR

4/6	Sunrise
4/20	Miami
4/27-28	Gainesville
8/3,4	Jacksonville
9/7-8	Melbourne
9/14	Sunrise
9/22	New Port Richey
10/19	Starke
10/19-20	West Palm Beach
11/9	Titusville
11/23-24	Tampa
12/7	Okeechobee
12/7	Ocala
12/14	Lake City

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073

HAPPY EASTER